

Evening Ledger

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
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THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR SEPTEMBER WAS 112,662

Philadelphia, Tuesday, October 31, 1916.

When I was at home I was in a better place; But travelers must be content. —Shakespeare.

The planting of tulip bulbs in the grounds of the White House by Mrs. Wilson for Mrs. Hughes looks as if "the flowers that bloom in the spring" have something to do with the case, after all.

Steel car plant wrecked by fire; 3600 idle.—Headlines.

We have seen more than three thousand steel workers idle when there hadn't been a fire in their plant for months, but there was a low tariff law.

If you want to know whether the labor vote can be swung from one party to another by labor leaders ask your Republican neighbor who is a member of a labor union if he intends to vote for Wilson. This form of argument ad hominem is more convincing than any amount of mere campaign yawn.

Unless the railroads had expected to make some material concessions in commutation rates, they would not have attempted to settle the issue outside of court. The family ticket seems to be essential if the suburbs are to develop as they should. Some means for its restoration should be found. In any event, it will be greatly to the advantage of all concerned if the final settlement is by general consent.

Statistician Cattell will have to get a new set of figures if he doesn't want Detroit to get ahead of Philadelphia with its record of a new building every fifty minutes. Of course, Mr. Cattell could complete that building in five minutes and weave lace curtains for it in six tenths of a second, to say nothing of providing hosiery for its inmates in half of the time. Cattell and Philadelphia are still a few laps ahead.

The Mayor's address at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon sounded very much like the sentiments he was accustomed to express at this time a year ago, in the heat of the mayoralty campaign. He promised then to have but a single object in view, namely, the progress and prosperity of Philadelphia. Yesterday he declared that "the welfare of Philadelphia, present and future, depends upon the ability of the municipal administration to have and to hold the confidence of the people."

We agree with him, within limitations. The initiative and energy of individuals, engaged in other work than government, is the true measure of progress. But had administration of the public interests can drive such enterprising citizens away, or discourage them in their pursuits, wherefore capable conduct of public affairs is essential to the kind of progress that is worth while. A progressive people will not, in fact, tolerate any other kind of administration.

No fitter place for a statue of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg could be found than the new Parkway, where it can be seen by the thousands who will use that splendid thoroughfare in the years to come. This man, born in Germany, who migrated to America to look after the destitute Lutherans in Pennsylvania in the middle of the eighteenth century, became one of the most patriotic colonists when the break with Great Britain came. He was a fine type of the man who changed his allegiance from his native country to that of the country of his adoption. The qualities of mind and heart that made him intensely American are manifested by hundreds of thousands of citizens of German descent who will vote for America and Americanism next week. He still loved Germany as the citizen of German stock now here loves the home of their ancestors, but he understood his duty to be loyal to his new country. There was no hyphen vote in his day because virtually all America was filled with a hyphenated citizenry. The city authorities are expected to grant permission to erect the statue of this great American so that it can be dedicated when the Lutherans complete the celebration of the four hundredth anniversary of the Protestant Reformation a year from today.

There is a general impression about that "Wall Street ought to know." Its information comes from its corporations, some of which spend their thousands of counts scattered about the country to recruit the staff. The odds of ten to one against the stock market suggest that the financial men expect a serious correction. In 1910 a similar stormy foreboding, which the odds fluctuated sharply in 1911. Even money prevailed in 1912, when the market was at a low ebb. In 1913 the market was at a high ebb, but in 1914 it was at a low ebb. In 1915 it was at a high ebb, but in 1916 it was at a low ebb.

Tom Daly's Column

THE JOURNEY
You are so brave, so loyal and so true!
You bring such sunshine to the last farewell
When some far duty calls me forth from you,
What tears consume your heart I cannot tell;
Not mine to know what prayers or tears drops pour
From your pent heart, when you have closed the door.
But this I know: How long, how far I roam,
My honor and my babes are safe with you
And light and sweetness shall illumine our home;
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THE SITUATION
THE world will not end late in the evening of November 7. The most important problems in half a century will face America on the morning of November 8, no matter who is elected, and will continue to face us for four years, and doubtless for forty years more.

We have been living for the five months of the campaign almost entirely on retrospect. Both parties have been looking backward, the Democrats to defend their record, the Republicans to attack it. Prophecies have been made by both sides, but they have been prophecies seen through the experiences of the past in the light of general facts, rather than prophecies based on the actual present in the light of the special facts that must guide the turn of affairs. Let us set out what the immediate future actually threatens:

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Second. The possibility of war with Germany if the sinking-without-warning party wins in the Reichstag and in gaining the Kaiser's ear and the ensuing necessity of conducting the first vital foreign war in our history since 1812.

Third. If we are not drawn into the war, the reorganization of our industry and trade to meet an unprecedented condition not only in the actively belligerent European countries, but in Japan, China, Canada, India, South America, Scandinavia, Holland and Spain.

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The Republican party is traditionally the party of able Secretaries of State who make no statement that is not backed up by action. John Hay, Elihu Root and Philander C. Knox rank with the great American statesmen of the past. Such leaders in this party have condemned the foreign policy of the Democrats as shifty and dangerous. The only answer to them is, "What will you do in our place?" The obvious rejoinder is that they could have no say in the Government for four months and four days, during which time the situation will, perforce, change hourly, and that they can only vigorously urge the Administration to profit by their criticism to avoid further abdications of American rights.

Second. For the emergency of war the Democrats would offer to the country a President who told the country in December, 1914, that there was "no need to discuss" the national defense, assisted by Secretary Baker and Secretary Daniels.

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Our Banknote
Our banknote will be held positively on the evening of Wednesday, November 15, at a place yet to be determined upon and the cost will be \$1 per plate.

Precocious
ACCOMPANYING a new pupil to a room in an uptown school was this card addressed to the teacher:
"Florence Quigley, try out in 5B. Finished fifth grade at Nativity." F. K.

Bowling along Jefferson avenue, St. Louis, in a luxurious taxi, we took a horrified eye off the mounting register long enough to lamp this sign over a shop: "Mrs. L. Hatmaker, milliner."

THE EVE OF ALL SAINTS
'Tis hard for moderns to believe
That this was once All-Hallows' Eve.
To those who riot at your door
Is "Holler-e'en" and nothing more.

Dear Tom—Fraise is due the considerable druggist on East Girard avenue for a service to the suffering public. Observing that the telephone operator was cross at the word, he warned the patron:
OPERATOR OUT OF ORDER
USE OTHER BOOTH.

There is one savings bank in Philadelphia for every family in the city and 50,000 more to boot.—Girard in P. L.

Dear T. D.—I note that you sometimes guess riddles. What does Girard mean by the above? I would like to find my bank—and not worry about the odd ones too. H.

It would seem, says L. Y. P., that bombs, like poets, are not merely made. This, head and all, appeared in the Lynn (Mass.) Item.

BIRTHS
LONDON, Oct. 23, 1916 (10:55 P. M.)—A hostile aeroplane appeared today over Margate, on the southeastern coast of England, and dropped three bombs. Two persons were injured.

YOUNG MEN
We have several positions for ambitious and enterprising young men and boys over 18 years. A splendid opportunity to learn stock salesmanship of variety of goods in manufacturing and wholesale lines.

Good height for a stockroom boy, eh? What? H. A. L.

Bachelor Bereavement
I love a girl named Isabel,
And to the world this truth I tell,
There is a girl who will be true,
COLONIAL GENT.

Art Note
W. C. S. reports this sign before some crude canvases displayed in a window at Fifty-third and Lansdowne avenue:
For Sale
These Pictures are Painted All in Hand in One Oil Colors.

Can This Be True
"ONLY," I see, means "this and no more."
It is a word I have turned down before.
It, as a word, is unique and is lonely.
No other word in the world rhymes with only.

Beware the Bunkhound!
Serving the City Beautiful He Bites All Unlovely Things

The Bunkhound fairly leaped upon us when we walked into our sanctum the other day after our long absence. At first we were quite touched by his show of affection, but very shortly we found that wasn't what ailed him at all. He was after something in our pockets and he nearly tore our clothes off to get it. It was a begging letter from the campaign committee of one of the great parties. When he had had his will with it this was the only legible shred of it:
... your contribution is our due, therefore, since our party alone is competent to solve the great questions sure to follow the war ...

Censoring the Movies
A Paramount Picture states: "Grandmother used to spin wool on a spindle." Very likely she also was in the habit of making music on her wheel.

There has been introduced into the school curriculum recently a course in civics. One teacher asked her class the meaning of the letters "D. P. W." that graced the contractor's garbage wagons. A painful silence ensued; then one youngster rose and announced, "Damn Poor Wages."

"Bunny," says a new critic, "that this second year attention on Erie avenue, east of Eleventh."

L. COTTON
Dry Goods & Notions